

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 FEA-01 AGREE-00

AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 OIC-02 /139 W

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R 301207Z SEP 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1918

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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ACTION STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD: MTN

SUBJECT: INITIAL INPUT FOR GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT MEETING

1. FOLLOWING IS OPERATIVE PORTION OF GATT/AIR/314:

"1. AS AGREED BY THE GROUP "NON-TARIFF MEASURES" THE
SUBGROUP "GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT" WILL COMMENCE ITS
INITIAL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 20 OCTOBER 1976 AT 3 P.M.
THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE INTERNATIONAL TELE-
COMMUNICATIONS UNION BUILDING (ENTRANCE AVENUE GIUSEPPE-
MOTTA). 2. AS AGREED AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE GROUP
"NON-TARIFF MEASURES" THE SUBGROUP IS EXPECTED AT THIS
MEETING TO ORGANIZE ITS WORK IN THE LIGHT OF THE DOCU-
MENTATION AVAILABLE TO IT BOTH FROM GATT AND OECD SOURCES,
HAVING REGARD TO ANY VIEWS EXPRESSED REGARDING REQUIRE-
MENTS FOR ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (MTN/NTM/21, PARAGRAPH 9)."

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2. THIS MEETING WILL BE LARGELY ORGANIZATIONAL BUT WILL

ALSO SET THE INITIAL COURSE FOR WORK IN THIS GROUP. THE TACTICS THAT WE EMPLOY IN THIS FIRST MEETING WILL THUS HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THIS INITIAL STAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT NEGOTIATIONS.

3. US DEL BELIEVES THAT OUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE IN THIS MEETING SHOULD BE TO FOCUS THE WORK OF THIS SUBGROUP ON THE DRAFT OECD INTRUMENT AND LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR ITS ACCEPTANCE AS THE NEGOTIATING DOCUMENT FOR THE MTN (AS WE DID WITH THE DRAFT STANDARDS CODE AT THE INITIATION OF THE MTN WORK ON STANDARDS). IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH THIS OBJECTIVE WE SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO HAVE THE DRAFT INSTRUMENT SENT DOWN FROM THE OECD AND DISTRIBUTED TO MTN PARTICIPANTS AT AN EARLY DATE. AFTER THIS IS DONE, US MTN DEL SHOULD APPROACH KEY NON-OECD MTN PARTICIPANTS AND ENGAGE THEM IN EDUCATIONAL PROCESS ON THE CONTENTS OF THE DRAFT PROCUREMENT CODE. HOPEFULLY, BY THE FIRST SUBSTANTIVE MEETING OF THE SUBGROUP WE WILL BE IN A POSITION TO ACTIVELY DISCUSS THE PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT CODE.

4. TAKING THE ABOVE OBJECTIVES INTO CONSIDERATION, AT THIS MEETING WE SHOULD: A) REVIEW THE OECD REPORT TO THE GATT; (B) ENCOURAGE THE GROUP TO REQUEST THE DRAFT INSTRUMENT FROM THE OECD AND (C) HAVE INCLUDED IN THE CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING UP A COMMITMENT FOR THE SUBGROUP TO REVIEW THE PROVISIONS OF THE CODE AT THE FIRST SUBSTANTIVE MEETING (LATE JANUARY/EARLY FEBRUARY).

5. AN ADDITIONAL TOPIC WHICH MUST BE RESOLVED AT THIS FIRST MEETING IS THE QUESTION OF A SUBGROUP CHAIRMAN. GIVEN THE NECESSITY OF A GROUP CHAIRMAN BEING RESIDENT IN GENEVA, THE SCARCITY OF SUITABLE NATIONAL CANDIDATES IN GENEVA, AND THE EC'S GENERAL RELUCTANCE TO ACCEPT NATIONAL CHARMEN, US MTN DEL BELIEVES WE SHOULD SEEK A CHAIRMAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT SUBGROUP FROM WITHIN THE GATT SECRETARIAT. UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY, THE US MTN DEL WILL EXPLORE POSSIBLE CANDIDATES WITH THE SECRETARIAT. IF AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED WITH THE SECRETARIAT ON AN APPROPRIATE CANDIDATE, WE WILL, AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WE HAVE DONE IN THE PAST, ATTEMPT TO NAIL DOWN THIS APPOINTMENT PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

6. AMBASSADOR WALKER HOPES THAT MORT POMERANZ'S (STR) SCHEDULE WILL ALLOW HIM TO ATTEND THIS MEETING TO ENSURE THE SMOOTH TRANSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT WORK.
CULBERT

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